R. S. 58
evious references.

1908.

(Mayavaram)

File No. 472

Serial Nos. 1 6

references.

Mg 61-1.

Mg 56-1923-11-15

Mag Dis. No 1214 1930-31

Pol 2352-46 (1

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1 to 6

Part B. for January 1910

SUBJECT.

Performance of Gajje Puja in the Sri Anjaneyaswami temple at Mulbagal

---

Sl 1. From the Dy Commr of the Kolar Distt. No. 5558/208 dt 17.2.09

Submits for orders of Govt regarding the ~~request~~ matter of granting permission to perform Gajje puje in the temple

Paras D. No. 728 dt 28.1.09 from Tahsildar of Mulbagal.

Prays for permission perform the Gajje puje in

GMB S,000—7-1-07

. 11j 190 9.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Mulbagal)

NOTES.

File No. 422-08

File Heading.

Grant of permission to perform Gajje Puje in the temple of Sri Anjaneyaswamy at Mulbagal.

rom

The Dy. Commr., Kolar Distt

No. 5558/208 Dated 14-2-09 Received

Diary No. 931 | Enclos. | Spare Copies | Serial No. 1

Brief Abstract of Letter.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Notes—First sheet

GPB—30,000 3-4-07

. 13]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

D. 428

Mung. 4. 102-08-15.

(ಇಲಾಖೆ)

Petition from Sulasa sister of Hanumanthu, "mandanga" karawarddar of Sri Anjaneya Swamy temple at mulubagal Prays for permission to perform "Gajjje Puje" to her sister Lakshmi in the temple.

Submitted for orders

ಇವಳು ಮಂಡಂಗ ಜಾತಿಯವಳಾಗಿದ್ದು ಶ್ರೀ ಆಂಜನೇಯಸ್ವಾಮಿ ದೇವಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಿಕೆ ಹಣ ವಸೂಲು ಮಾಡುವ ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ನೇಮಕವಾಗಿದ್ದಾಳೆ. ಈಕೆಯ ತಂಗಿಯಾದ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿಯನ್ನು ಗಜ್ಜೆ ಪೂಜೆ ಮಾಡಿಸಲು ಈಕೆಯು ಕೋರಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾಳೆ. ಈ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಏನಾದರೂ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ಕೋರಿದೆ.

AV 5/2/09

Submitted with the Minutes of the Asamik. The Devadasi file is with the Officer.

AV 5/2/09

The 'Utsava' Lays limit Upto Chaitra Purnima this year is extended for a year. Reports if any. Apart from this proposal is not objectionable.

AV 5/2/09

AV.

6/2/09.

The DG comments report on the subject has since been received

---

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

GPB—45,000—19-5-08

ne

t. Muz File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.	
	From,
	The Dy Commr, Kolar District
	No 5558/208 Dt 17-2-09
	Submits report in the matter of granting permission to Hanumappa's sister to perform Gajjje Puje in the temple of Sri Anjaneyaswamy at Mulbagal
	The Assistant commissioner's English Report dated 13th July 1908 gives a clear account of the facts of the case. The Dy Commissioner solicits instructions in the matter.
	Submitted for orders
AV 25/7/09	
	26/7/09
	Dft Instruction as enclosed
	Asst Secy 31/7/09
(2)	To, The Dy Commr, Kolar Dist
	No 1290 Dt 11-3-09.
Flag C)	Calls for further information on the grant of permission to perform Gajjje Puje in the Anjaneyaswamy temple at Mulbagal
(3)	From. the same officer,
	Letter no 9141/302 Dt 21-5-09
Flag D)	Submits report called for
	Sl 2

NOTE—Comm. sheet.

GPB—50 000—18-5-08

nue

Mug File No. 422 of 190 ✓

4

Serial No.

The Amildar's English report dated 3d May 1909 goes fully into the facts of the case. It is reported that Gajje Puje is merely intended to bind over the girl under Lanachara ties, that singing and dancing are not essential at the time and that Bale nalakara Setty ties worships the Gajje which the girl ties herself

Submitted for orders

AG 11/6/09

May the Honble Members attention be invited to Govt. Pro: No. 1560-71 dated 10th April 1909 & further report called for as to whether under the terms of the orders therein contained, he is still of opinion that Gajje Puje in the temple may be permitted?

Sd/- 4

11.6.09

Note of this in Diary

This is a dispute between two females of dancing girls at Mulbagal. The party who is a Christian woman says that Gajje Puja is the daughter of an ordinary Reddi woman of a Nattuva. The opponent party says that such things are not dancing girls per se and that therefore they should be entitled to perform Gajje puja in the Anjaneya Temple. It is stated that this latter is a function from which

NOTE—Contn sheet

GPB—50 000—18-5-08

an Revenue Secretariat. | Revs. File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

to

Hereditary performance of Vejji Puja in the Subramanya Temple.

On account of the dispute between Hereditary trustee and the performance of Vejji Puja in the Subramanya Temple. The Assistant Commissioner says, that we are not concerned about the validity of the proposed, but that is a question for the Civil Courts to decide and that if there is no objection to perform the Vejji Puja to initiate the civil suit should afford facilities for the devotees to discharge their vows.

As the Temple is a denominational institution the Board thinks that instructions of just.

The Vice President of the Board Division thinks of from the correct. We are all familiar with cases in which in discharge of vows [illegible] Annaprasana, Akshara Abhyasam, Upanayanas and marriages and other ceremonies are performed in Temple Gopurams and Temples. With reference to this Vejji Puja appears to be an important ceremony. It is asserted that singing and dancing are not essential parts of this ceremony. Provided that there are not any objections in the Civil Courts and that nothing objectionable exists of G.O. No. 880-71-Mag. dt 26-05-3 dt 10/4/1903 is done it seems to the Board to permit performance of Vejji Puja by the [illegible]

L

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50 000—15-5-08

nue
iat.

File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

With the Dy of Local officers letter last but one submitted is second Example
Alienation Cases

Nil

997)

26/6/09

What is the age of the girl? Does not Gejje Puje initiate the girl to a life of prostitution. Would not the ceremony be an offence under the Penal Code?

26/6/09

Inspector about to be
28/6/09

Submitted
28/6/09

4 To, the Dy. Commr, Kolar Dist

Docket no 2435 Dy 30.6.09

Calls for report on the Councillor's queries as to and two refd. to above

5 From, the Same officer,

Letter no 1007 Dy 27.7.09

Submits the report called for,

The Dy Commr reports that the age of the girl who has not attained puberty as yet is between 13 and 14 years

Flag Z)

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50.000—13-5-08

Serial No.

and that Gajje Puje does not initiate her to a life of prostitution but gives her the privilege of dancing and singing before the public.

Submitted for orders

AAJ 3.8.09

4/8/09 Submitted to Hon'ble Council with reference to this query.

55

The girl is said to be about 14 years old and it is reported that she has not attained puberty. It is said that Gajje Puje does not initiate her to a life of prostitution.

If the Hon'ble Council desires to make reference to a previous ruling of the Govt. of Bombay published in Bombay Govt. Gazette of the 15th Ultimo.

Copy put up herewith id dated 28

I am not sure that the system of tying tali in a temple and thus become a devadasi or practising a prostitute, permits in Mysore.

There seems to be such a great difference between devadasi and a Jejje Puje.

1548 5-8-09

A Subbarayan 5/8/1909

This is hardly a matter for the Advocate's opinion. But I am doubtful whether a practice which perhaps we may have connived at or rather

Where Advocate's opinion is necessary

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50.000—13-5-08

Mucy File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

left without Notice, should be recognised by an order of Govt. Please let me see the Cases decided by High Courts under S. 372 (Any Commentary will give them.). Also 7 Bom. Law Reporter P 562 referred to Bombay Govt. Proc. 4

8/8/09

Mr. Mayne. Get the 7 Bom. Law Reporter & Mayne's Criminal Law & Ratanlal's Criminal Law

8/

9/8/1909

Remembrancer

7 Bom. L. Rep. to print up

I.L.R. 7 Bombay is not available. Mayne's Criminal Law authorises of the decision therein referred to are put up. Of them I.L.R. 16 Bom. 737 has the point nine clearly & fully discussed.

Rd. 12.8.09

10/8/1909

It is all a pretence that the Gejje puje has no significance of an objectionable kind. There are many cases reported in British India, in which dedication as a devadasi by a mock marriage carried out in temples was held to amount to an offence punishable under

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50.000—13-5-08

Serial No.

the Penal Code, though it was urged with equal plausibility there that such dedication did not make a prostitute of her but was meant only to make her fit to sing and dance before the image of the deity.

We have gained a point of great importance by issuing the late order about the elimination of these women from the temple services. Nothing will be lost by declaring that women of this class should not be allowed to perform the initial ceremony of their profession in Temples under the Control of the Mysore Department. They may come into temples just like other devotees of any Caste and make their offerings; but it is by no means a hardship if we disallow any Connection between the temples and the females

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

ue
iat.

File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

ceremonies of this class, which whatever may the euphemism with which their true nature is sought to be concealed, ~~has~~ have an intimate connection with the immoral trade of these unfortunate women.

I would issue a general order prohibiting the performance of this rite within the precincts of any temple under the control of Govt. Put a draft ~~is~~ will be put up by the office.

Dewan.

14/8/09

Put up draft

a circular

16/8/1909

Put up for draft

4d 18/8/09

Draft submitted through the Secretary, as this is a case of general importance.

According to the view taken by the Committee it is not material whether the child is below or above sixteen years. The ceremony is prohibited in the case of all.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13 5 08

Revenue tariat.

Mag File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

If any proclamation like the one issued by the Bombay Government is thought necessary the Judicial Branch may take up the matter; and if necessary the following may be added as the last para to this draft :-

In the present case it is also reported that the girl is under 16 years of age. Government have reasons to believe that the performance of Gejje Puje in the case of such girls is an offence punishable under section 372 of the Indian Penal Code.

Under Secretary,

19-8-1909. Br : VTI.

Not necessary, unless action is intended.

Where is this stated? I is better not to commit ourselves to Govt statements like this. Unless it can be shown that the object of the Ceremony is immoral one, & that the union was dispersed, 372 I.P.C. cannot apply.

A draft in accordance with the expressed views of the 2d Commissioner is put up. If this is passed, it will be sent to Madras.

2d V

This is only a slight advance on the last order of Govt, and it is in the right direction. I believe that enlightened public opinion would welcome

1709

Note—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000 -13-5 08

Revenue
re riat.

Rev. File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

the ~~alteration~~ direction. If the Dewan pleases, the subject may be considered as a Council matter

Hm

20 27/8/09

Dewan 27/8/09

2205 25.8.09

The draft may be approved - Please circulate to the Councillors & bring up for orders to the Council - Letter also as I have made some alterations in the draft - Letter to be

281

2467

Submitted to Second Councillor

Ambalavanar

3/1/10

Seen. The draft as altered may be passed -

14/1/10

Hm

21

Submitted to 1st Councillor

Ambalavanar

18/1/1910

704 17.1.10

The draft order has my Concurrence

14/1/10

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18-5 08

Mug 422 - 08

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit for approval the draft of an order proposed to be issued with reference to a petition addressed to Government in the Muzrai Department, by one Tulsi, for permission to perform Gejje Puje to her sister Lakshmi in the Sri Anjaneyaswami temple at Mulbagal.

2. The draft has been seen by the Councillors and approved by them.

20/

elug 422-08

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja

Subject.

24.1.10
802

Draf of an order proposed to be issued with reference to a petition addressed to Government in the Muzrai Department, by one Tulsi, for permission to perform Gejje Puje to her sister Laksmi in the Sri Anjenayaswami temple at Mulbagal.

50/1

Order.

Approved
~~KRW~~
24/1/10

776
25/1/10

Seen
25/1/10

By DC
25/1/10

Recd 24/1/10

26/1/10

26/1/10

Revenue Secretariat.

News File No. 422 of 1908

Serial No.

To. Rembmitted to Dewan Ambabungo

Rec B

3979 19.1.10

17/1/1910

Issue early

&

26/1/1910

6 To. The Collr. Kolar Distt

" Collrs of other Distts

No. 1872-9 of 28 1. 1910

Directs with certain observations, the discontinuance of Gajje Puja or any ceremony by the dancing girls within the precincts of Muzrai temples.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13.5.08

VII / 1909 / D931

From C. Srikantes Urs Hajar Esqre
M.A., B.L.
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To The Secretary to the Government
of Mysore
Mewzrai Branch.

Dated 16th February 1909.

Despatched 17.2.09

Received

General No. 5558

No. 208

Enclosure No. One file.

Submitting the report re the matter of granting permission to perform Gajje puje in the temple of Sri Anjeneya Swami at Mulbagal.

Refer

[illegible]

9.2.09

[illegible]
24.1.09

5558
208

Deputy Commissioner's Office
Kolar District,
Dated 13th February 1909.

77

From C. Srikanteswara Aiyar Esquire B.A., B.L.
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To C.S. Balasundram Aiyar Esquire B.A.
Officiating Secretary to the Government
of Mysore, Gen. and Rev. Departments,
Muzrai Branch.

Sir,

In submitting herewith vernacular file of Correspondence ending with Malur Sub Division Officer's No. 105 dated 13th July (May 7) 1908, in the matter of granting permission to perform Gajje puje in the temple of Sri Anjeneya swami at Mulbagal, I have the honour to state that one Hanumappa who is one of the temple servants employed as a drummer, applied to the Amildar of

of Mulbagal for permission to perform
his sisters ~~Gajje-puje~~ in the above temple
(Flag V) but he refused to grant it-

2. The petitioner then appealed against
the above order to the Sub Division Officer
Malur who ordered a detailed enquiry
in the matter and has now forwarded
(Flag VI) the entire records with his opinion that
there was nothing indecent or immoral
in permitting the Ceremony to take place
in the temple-

3. The temple referred to being a
Muzrai Institution I solicit instructions
from Government in the matter of grant-
ing permission to perform Gajje puje as
prayed for by the petitioner-

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant,

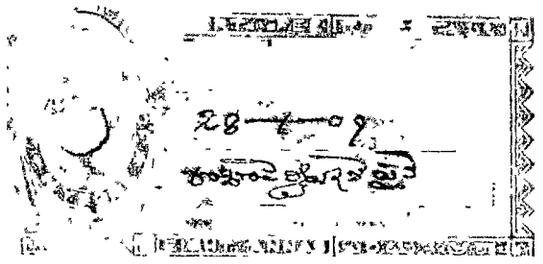
S. Shamanna
For Deputy Commissioner
Kolar District

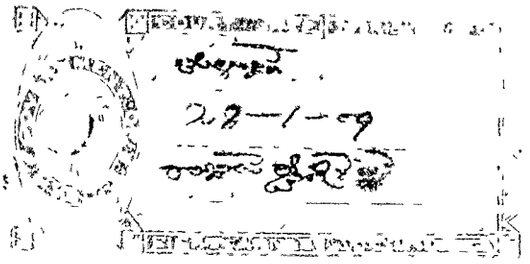
అభిప్రాయం

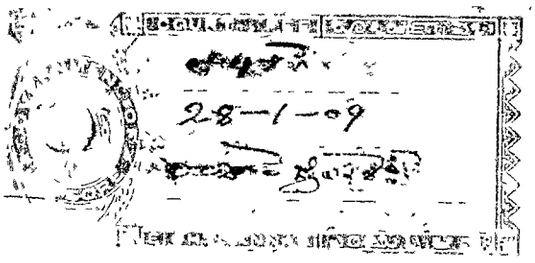
[illegible]

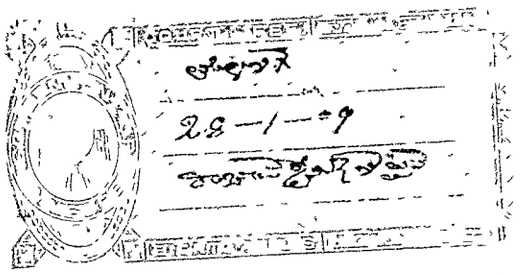
[illegible]

5/2/09









15=

ಅಗತ್ಯ ಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ

ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ

ಮೊಬೈಲ್ – ೮ – ಮೇಲ್

ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ

G.R.S. 29A]

190 .

From

Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness.
The Maharaja of Mysore,
Genl. and Rev. Dept.

To

The Dy commr
Kolar Dist

Dated

Despatched 11.3.09

Received

General No.

No.

Enclosure No.

Adverting to his letter no 5558 dated 6th February 1909 reporting on the grant of permission to perform Gaje puje in the temple of Sri Anjaneyaswamy at Mulbagal has the honor to request to be furnished with information on the points noted below :—

What are the formalities

GPB—10,000—9-4-06.

observed in the performance of the Bije and who does it? What are the connected ceremonies

Do Singing and dancing also form one of the requisite functions on the occasion? and who ~~ties~~ worships and lies the Gajje?

2) The vernacular records are herewith returned for reference and re-submission ~~with detailed report on the above.~~

By order,
Sd/-
Dy Secretary
4/8/09

Dft)

D1583 9

Gr 236

1909

From Mr. M.Z.F 422-08-3

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District

To

The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore,
Gen & Rev departments, Muz: branch,
Bangalore

Dated 21st

Despatched } May 1909

Received

General No. 9141

No. 302

Enclosure No One file

Resubmitting the records in connection with the grant of permission to perform Gajje puje in the Sri Anjaneyaswami temple at Mulbagal with the additional information called for.

Refer
& M
21/5/09
M

1C

Office of the

No 9141/302 Kolar District

E-c/file Dated, Kolar, 21st may 1909

From

C. Srikantaiyara Aujar Esquire, B.A., B.L.,

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District

To

K. S. Chandrasekhara Aujar Esquire, B.A., B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of H.H. the Maharaja

of Mysore, General and Revenue departments,

Muzarai branch, Bangalore

Sir,

With reference to your docket No 1290 muz-7- no 422-08-2 dated 11th March 1909, Calling for certain additional information anent the grant of permission to perform Gajje puje in the temple of Sri Anjaneya-Swami at Mulbagal, I have the

honor

to State that the Amildar of Mulbagal has furnished in detail all the particulars required, in his memo filed in the records.

2 The vernacular records Received with the above are herewith resubmitted for kind perusal and an obliging return when done with.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

S. Shamanna

For Deputy Commissioner,

Kolar District.

D 220

Dft as pr8 orders

Muz. 1]

190

From

To

The Dy Commr
Kolar Dist

Dated

Despatched 30th June 09

Received

General No. 2435

No. 14-1-7

Enclosure No.

Adverting to his letter no. 9141/302 dated 21st may 1909 submitting further report on the grant of permission to perform Gajje Puje in the Sri Anjaneya Swamy temple at Kuthagha, has the honor to repeat

G P L—3 000- 19-9 07

to be furnished with information on the points noted below:—

1) What is the age of the girl? and

2. What is her View Point Custom by which girl before her marriage

3) Does not Gajje Puje which is supposed to be an initiation into Prostitution initiate the girl to a life of prostitution?

2) The Vern records are herewith returned for ref. and re-return.

By order,

(Cis order) for Secretary

4/2/08

D 220

1909.
Revy 422-08-5

From
The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To
The Secretary to the Govt of
Mysore, General and Revenue
Department, Huzrai Branch
Bangalore

Dated

Despatched 27th July 1909.

Received

General No. 1007
No. 37

Enclosure No. 1 file

Submitting further
information as to the grant
of permission to perform
Gajjepuje in the Sri Anja
neya Swamy temple at Hulbagal

Reply
As contemplated
29/7/09
by

15

No. 1007/31 Encl file

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMM
KOLAR DISTRICT.
Dated the 27th July 1909

From.

C. Srikanteswara Aiyar Esqr. B.A. B.L.;
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District

To.

K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar Esqr. B.A.BL.;
Secretary to the Government
of Mysore, General and Revenue
Departments, Munzrai Branch.

Sir,

With reference to your docket No. 435/22-08-4 dated 30th June 1909, calling for certain additional information anent the grant of permission to perform Gajjepuje in the temple of Sri Anjaneya-swami at Kolbagal. I have the honor to state that from the Amildars' report No. 5 dated 9th instant, it will be seen that the age of the girl who has not attained puberty as yet is between 13 and 14 years, that there is no particular vow to be taken by her, and that the Gajjepuje does not

not initiate her to a life of prostitution, but on the other hand, it only gives her the privilege to perform dancing and Singing before the public.

2. The Amildar's report together with the vernacular file of Correspondence is herewith Submitted for reference.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

S. Shamanna.
for Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District

1909-10

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS
THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

MUZRAI

PROCEEDINGS

Dated 28th January 1910

No. 1872-9
Muz. 422-08-6

Directs with certain observations, the discontinuance of the performance of Gejje Puje or any similar ceremony by the dancing girls within the precincts of Muzrai ter[illegible]

GPB—14-2-10—250

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Muzrai, dated 28th January 1910.

READ—

1. Petition Registered No. D. 728, dated 28th January 1909, from Tulasi, sister of Hanumantha, an employee in the Sri Anjaneyaswami temple at Mulbagal, praying for permission to perform Gejje Puje to her sister Lakshmi in the said temple.

2. Correspondence ending with letter No. 1007-31, dated 27th July 1909, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, reporting on the above.

No. 1872-9—Muz. 422-08-6, dated Bangalore, 28th January 1910.

Order thereon.—In consequence of a dispute likely to lead to a breach of the peace among the dancing girls and other members of the community at Mulbagal, in regard to the title of the petitioner's sister to perform Gejje Puje in the Sri Anjaneyaswami temple there, the Amildar refused to accord the permission asked for. The Assistant Commissioner in divisional charge was of opinion that the caste disputes of the dancing girls should not prevent the Gejje Puje, which was only a ceremony initiating the girl to the art of singing and dancing from being performed in the temple in accordance with the petitioner's vow. The Deputy Commissioner has now sought the instructions of Government, as the temple in question is a Muzrai institution.

2. The Government observe that whatever may be the euphemism by which the true nature of the ceremony is concealed, Gejje Puje has an intimate connection with dedication to the profession of a prostitute dancing girl. They are not prepared to allow the performance of such a ceremony in a Muzrai temple; and are satisfied from the depositions and the opinion of the Muzrai Agamik on record that no hardship will be caused by the prohibition of the performance of such ceremonies in temples. They accordingly prohibit the performance of Gejje Puje or any similar ceremony within the precincts of any temple under the control of Government in the Muzrai Department. This will, of course, not prevent women of this class from resorting to temples with offerings for the purposes of performing puja to the same extent as they have hitherto been by usage allowed.

Offg. Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts

To—The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, returning enclosures
The Deputy Commissioners of other Districts for information and guidance

Exd —C. V.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Read:-

Encl

Petition Registered No.D 728, dated 28th January 1909, from Tulasi, sister of Hanumanta an employee in the Sri Anjaneya Swami temple at Mulbagal, praying for permission to perform Gejje Puje to her sister Lakshmi in the said temple.

Correspondence ending with letter No.1007/31 dated 27th July 1909, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, reporting on the above.

-0-0-0-0-0-

Order thereon:- 1872—9 a-e 1fr°,
Mung-7-422-08-6 9 28/12

In consequence of a dispute, likely to lead to a breach of the peace among the dancing girls and other members of the community at Mulbagal, in regard to the title of the petitioner's sister to perform Gejje Puje in the Sri Anjaneya Swami temple there, the Amildar refused to accord the permission asked for. The Assistant Commissioner in divisional charge was of opinion that the caste disputes of the dancing girls should not prevent the Gejje Puje, which was only a ceremony initiating the girl to the art of singing and dancing,

from being performed in the temple in accordance with the petitioner's vow. The Deputy Commissionerhas now sought the instructions of Government, as the temple in question is a Muzrai institution.

2. The Government observe that whatever may be the euphemism by which the true nature of the ceremony is concealed, Gejje Puje has an intimate connection with dedication to the profession of a prostitute dancing girl. They are not prepared to allow the performance of such a ceremony in a Muzrai temple; and are satisfied from the depositions and the opinion of the Muzrai Agamik on record that no hardship will be caused by the prohibition of the performance of such ceremonies in temples. They accordingly prohibit the performance of Gejje Puje or any similar ceremony within the precincts of any temple under the control of Government in the Muzrai Department. This will of course not prevent women of this class from resorting to temples with offerings for the purposes of performing Puja to the same extent as they have hitherto been by usage allowed.

Print

Secretary.

To

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, returning enclosures.

The Deputy Commissioners of other Districts for information and guidance.

No. 1880 of 28/7.

Copy to the Officer in charge of the Palace Establishments, for information.

G.R.S. 28]

File No.

Serial No.

Diary No. of letter replied to

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( )

, *the* 190

Date of issue

Signed by

READ—

Petition Reg'd no D 728, dated 28th January 1909, from Tulasi, sister of Hanumanta, an employee in the Sri Anjaneya Swami temple at Mulbagal, praying for permission to perform Gejje puje when sister Lakshmi in the said temple

ORDER THEREON.—No. Correspondence ending with letter no. 607/31 dated 29th July 1909, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, reporting on the above

---

Ordered

SUBJECT

GPB—6,000—13-5-05

22 Order thereon:-

In consequence of a dispute likely to lead to a breach of the peace among the dancing girls & other members of the community at Mudbagal, in regard to the title of the ~~title of the~~ ~~the Amildar refused to permit~~ petitioners sister to perform ~~the performance of the Gajje puje~~ puje ~~of petitioners sister~~ in the Sri Anjaneya Swami temple ~~at Mudbagal~~. The Amildar refused to accord the permission as the temple is one under Muzrai management. The Asst Commr in charge ~~of the Taluk~~ divisional was of opinion that the caste disputes of the dancing girls should not prevent the Gajje puje which was only a ceremony initiating the girl to the art of singing and dancing, puje being performed in the temple in accordance with the petitioner's vow. The Deputy Commr has now sought the instructions of Govt, as the temple in question is a Muzrai institution.

2. The Govt observe that whatever may be the euphemism with which the true nature of the ceremony is ~~sought to be~~ conceale d, Gajje puje has an intimate connection with the dedication of girls to the profession of prostitute dancing ~~girls~~. They are not prepared

G.R.S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation Sheet draft)

~~in these~~ ~~Rules~~ This Govt ~~Rules~~ desire to allow the performance of such a ceremony in a Murrai temple; and are satisfied that no hardship will be caused by the prohibition of the performance of such ceremonies in temples. They accordingly prohibit the performance of Gajje puje or any similar ceremony within the precincts of any temple under the control of Govt in the Muzrai Department

Print.

This will of course not prevent ~~dancing girls~~ the women of this class from resorting ~~to temples~~ to with offerings to temples for the purposes of performing Puja to the same extent as they have hitherto been by usage allowed.

Fair draft)

19.8.1909

19/8/1909

Asst Secretary to Govt 19/8/09

The Dy Commrs, Kolar Dt., ref. enclos:

" Dy Commrs of other Dts for info & guidance

Copy to the Offr in charge of the Palace Establishments, for info.

22/8/9

14/1/10

MGCPB—30,000—5-1-05

G.R.S. 13]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Cuttings from the Madras Mail
dy 16th July 1909.

Dancing Girls in Temples.

A PROCLAMATION

BOMBAY, 15*th July*.—A Proclamation of the Bombay Government is issued, drawing attention to the existence of practices in connection with temples and elsewhere by which provisions of Section 373, Indian Penal Code are violated, and instructing all District Magistrates to cause the provisions of the law to be enforced by such action as may appear appropriate against those transgressing.

To the Librarian. G.R.S.

Please send the latest issue of the Bombay Gazette. This will be retd. very soon

M Venkatarao
R.S. VII 19-7-09

The latest issue of the Gazette dd. 8.7.09 has not yet been received in the Library.

19.7. Kindly keep this with you & send with the Gazette as soon as received. I will have the Gazette retd immediately. This will remind you.

GPB—45,000—19-5-08

The Gazette referred to is herewith sent. Please return copy as it has to be consulted 20.7.

Subbd
dy 20/7/09

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

1. Typed Copy returned
2. Kept
20/7/09

R108

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 8th July 1909.

No, 3866.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it has come to the notice of His Excellency the Governor in Council that various evil practices exist whereby girls of tender age are by dedication as Murlis, Aradhins, Bhawanis, Devadasis Jogins, Basris, or to service of similar nature, or by disposal to private persons, led by the action of their parents or natural guardians whose duty it is to protect such children, to lead lives of immorality before they have reached years of discretion:

And whereas it appears to His Excellencey the Governor in Council that such practices are contrary to the existing law, but that the provisions thereof are insufficiently known and observed:

And whereas it appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council right and fitting that measures should be taken for the protection of such girls of tender age as are not efficiently protected by their parents or natural guardians, public proclamation is hereby made in order that the law being more widely known the people may hereafter abstain from such practices.

Be it therefore known to all men that under section 372 of the Indian Penal Code whoever sells, lets to hire or otherwise disposes of any minor under the age of sixteen years with the intent that such minor shall be used for the purpose of prostitution or for any

any unlawful or immoral purpose, or knowing it to be likely that such minor ~~shall be used~~ will be employed or used for such purpose, is guilty of an offence punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years, and that the mere fact of enrolling a minor girl among the servants of any temple, whose profession is known to be that of prostitution is an offence under this section, and that the parents or guardians who either by causing a minor to go through a form of marriage with an image or other symbol or by dedication of such minor to the service, of any diety where such form of marriage or dedication is likely to lead such minor to live a life of prostitution are guilty of an offence punishable under this section, and that any person who otherwise disposes of any minor with a like knowledge or intent is guilty of the same offence.

Further be it known that any person who buys, hires, or otherwise obtains possession of any minor under the age of sixteen years with similar knowledge or intent is guilty of any offence punishabl under section 373 of the Indian Penal Code with a term of imprison-ment which may extend to ten years, and that therefore the manager of any temple or other persons who by reason of such marriage, dedication or disposal obtain possession of any such minor intendin or knowing it to be likely that such minor will lead a life of prostitution have committed the offence defined by this section.

And further let it be known that any person who instigates or intentionally aids any parent or guardian or other person to so dispose of any such minor knowing that the result will be that such minor will lead a life of prostitution is guilty under sections 107 and 372 of the Indian Penal Code of abetting the offence punish -able by the latter section and is therefore liable to rigorous imprisonment under the provisions of Chapter 5 of the Indian Penal Code, and that any person who instigates or intentionally aids any person to obtain possession of any such minor with such intent or knowing is guilty of abetting an offence punishable under section 373 of the Indian Penal Code and is punishable with rigorous imprisonment under the provisions of Chapter 5 of the same Code.

And in order that this matter may be better understood the public are hereby informed that in many cases persons have from time to time been @@@@@@@@@@@@ sentenced to terms of imprisonment for offences of this nature and more particularly that Mukund Pandu Deoli and five other @@@@ persons, who had caused the Shej ceremony to be performed on certain minor girls, thereby making them Bhawani attached to a temple, were on the 19th April 1905 sentenced by the High Court of Bombay each to undergo a term of six months' rigorous imprisonment under section 372 of the Indian Penal Code.

And in order that these evil practices with reference to minor girls, whether by dedication to temple service or by private disposal may cease, it is the and pleasure of His Excellency the

the Governor in Council that all District Magistrates should cause the provisions of the law to be enforced in suitable cases by such action as may appear appropriate against those transgressing;-

---

7 Bom. L.R.,P.562.

The Devadasis known as
Devadasis of other Districts
Pro. No 1872-9 of 28.1.1910

Directs with certain observations,
the discontinuance of the per-
formance of Gejje Puje or
any similar ceremony
by the dancing girls within
the precincts of Shivai
temples.